

NOTE SHOWS FOE WEAK, SAYS PARIS

Matin Declares Innate Trickery of Teuton Still Seeks to Deceive

ANGUISH TRANSLATED

French Papers Find Everything in Message Except the Genuine

By the Associated Press

Paris, Oct. 22.

The German reply to President Wilson was received here too late for the afternoon papers, but was eagerly discussed in official circles and in Parliament. Among deputies of all shades of opinion, the impression was first of all, that the reply betrayed more than previous communications the state of depression and the demoralization of the German people as the result of the Allies' victories.

As a whole, the note is found to be equivocal and tortuous and so plausibly phrased as to leave the door open for all sorts of quibbling. Nowhere is there any evidence in the reply of a genuine desire to accept the only way in which peace can be concluded, according to expression of opinion here. On the contrary, all that is apparent is the desire of the German general staff to get an armistice at any price in order to reorganize its reserves of men and materiel. Therefore, it is generally believed that the reply is not likely to be considered at Washington.

The *Figaro* says that the men who combined to write the reply to President Wilson have "translated" the anguish, despair and powerless anger of the people, in whose name they pretend to speak.

"The German note is a typical document," says the *Matin*. "In it are expressed the sentiments of a barbarous people, who failed in a foray. There is not a word in the note which reveals that stoical strength which France and other nations have so often given proof in misfortune. Nevertheless, by a remnant of that lying trickery innate in the Teuton, our adversary seeks still to deceive himself by building himself against all evidence and hopes, by one does not know what crazy illusion, to succeed in deluding Wilson by supple and equivocal phrases."

The *Journal* says the note seeks to divide the Allies and seeks also to draw from President Wilson a formal declaration that "nothing will be asked contrary to the honor of the German people, but that an avowal of defeat is not."

Colonel de Thomassin, in the *Petit Journal*, says: "The note is proof that the German high command considers the situation of its armies most grave, but not yet desperate."

"The German Government is again trying to quibble," says *L'Homme Libre*. "Still, while humiliating itself, it does not admit its defeat, but one feels it is at the end of its resistance."

Marcel Cachin, writing in *Humanite*, says: "On every point the German Government clearly shows an effort at conciliation. Good sense and reason dictate that we do not persist in talking of traps and tricks. We said a few days ago that the conversations begun on October 6 would be continued. We may observe that a new step toward a peace has been made this day."

The Germans are hoping by their discussion of an armistice to substitute General Pershing for Marshal Foch as the military leader who will state the terms, the *Petit Journal* says. The newspaper adds that it is sufficient to point out that President Wilson has been a warm partisan of unified command. It remarks that the supreme commander has the right to lay down the conditions of an armistice.

The announced German concessions respecting submarine warfare are merely pretenses, the *Petit Journal* continues, basing as the submarine campaign is a definite failure, particularly in view of the loss of Ostend and Zeebrugge.

The most general comment in the press upon the German reply is that the enemy is attempting to escape an admission of defeat by causing pacific agitation in Entente countries. With this end in view, the German wireless is sending out facts to stir the pacific manifestations in Lyons, Marseilles and other important cities and of imminent strikes.

ITALIAN PRESS WARNS OF GERMAN TREACHERY

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

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"An armistice must not be a suspension of hostilities nor a means to enable the Central Empires to reorganize their military forces on their frontiers to accumulate new arms, to resist in the discussions of peace and eventually to begin the war again. It must be, instead, a prelude to a just and lasting peace, to be attained with mathematical certainty. To obtain this, the Allies must take iron resolutions and ask formidable guarantees. Only in this way the declarations of the Central Empires that they accept peace on the basis of principles enunciated by President Wilson can be converted into reality."

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TEXT OF LATEST GERMAN PLEA TO PRESIDENT FOR END OF WAR

London, Oct. 22.—The following is the text of the German reply to President Wilson, as received here by wire:

In accepting the proposal for an evacuation of occupied territories the German Government has started from the assumption that the procedure of the evacuation and of the conditions of an armistice would be left to the judgment of the military advisers and that the actual standard of power on both sides in the field has to form the basis for arrangements safeguarding and guaranteeing this standard.

The German Government suggests to the President that an opportunity should be brought about for fixing the details. It trusts that the President of the United States will approve of no demand which would be irreconcilable with the honor of the German people and with opening a way to a peace of justice.

The German Government protests against the reproach of illegal and inhumane actions made against the German land and sea forces and thereby against the German people. For the covering of a retreat destructions will always be necessary and they are carried out in so far as permitted by international law. The German troops are under most strict instructions to spare private property and to exercise care for the population to the best of their ability. Where transgressions occur in spite of these instructions the guilty are being punished.

The German Government further denies that the German navy in sinking ships has ever purposely destroyed lifeboats with their passengers. The German Government proposes, with regard to all those charges, that the facts be cleared up by neutral commissions.

In order to avoid anything that might hamper the work of peace, the German Government has caused orders to be dispatched to all submarine commanders concluding that the carrying of passenger ships, without, however, for technical reasons, being able to guarantee that those orders will reach every single submarine at sea.

AZIONI DI ARTIGLERIA AL FRONTE ITALIANO

Violenti Bombardamenti si Verificano sulle Linee delle Montagne

Published and Distributed Under Authority of the War Office, London, Oct. 22, 1918.

By the Associated Press

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With reference to the paragraph in the German note denying that the German navy in sinking ships ever purposely destroyed lifeboats with their passengers, it is pointed out in Government circles that many cases could be quoted in reply to this denial.

Two recent cases are the Llandovery Castle, which was sunk off the north coast of Ireland, and the French steamer Lydiana, sunk off the north coast of Spain, July 16.

The Llandovery Castle was torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast on the night of June 27, while returning from Halifax with no wounded aboard. The vessel carried 258 persons, including fourteen female nurses, and only twenty-four were saved.

After the Lydiana had been torpedoed, two whaleboats and a raft were lowered. The German submarine rained both boats, causing many deaths. After the Lydiana was sunk, the submarine succeeded in sinking the raft and then disappeared without helping the survivors. Nine men of the crew of forty-two were picked up later, having clung to wreckage for more than a day. The second engineer of the Lydiana reported that the crew of the submarine had deliberately trying to kill all on board the steamer.

The section of the wireless text of the German note referred to, reads: "The German Government further denies that the German navy in sinking ships has ever purposely destroyed lifeboats with their passengers. The German Government proposes with regard to all those charges that the facts be cleared up by neutral commissions."

Considerable comment is being made in the Italian press on the German note. The *Avanti* says that the German note is a "typical document" and that it is "proof that the German high command considers the situation of its armies most grave, but not yet desperate."

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BULGARS YIELDED ON ARMY'S RULES

French General Barred Political Questions From Negotiations

COUNTRY IN A BAD WAY

German General Staff Kept Troops in Ignorance of Real Situation

By WARD PRICE

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

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Germany's new suggestion that the President bring about an opportunity for fixing the details is held to be a deliberate misinterpretation of his position. The language of the new suggestion is, however, guaranteed not only by constitutional safeguards, but also by the unshakable determination of the German people, whose vast majority stands behind these reforms and demands their energetic continuance.

The question of the President—with whom he and the Government associated themselves—Germany is dealing—therefore, in a clear, unequivocal manner by the statement that the offer of peace and an armistice has come from a Government which is free from an arbitrary and irresponsible influence and is supported by the approval of an overwhelming majority of the German people.

HISTORY GIVES LIE TO GERMAN DENIAL

By the Associated Press

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LONDON SEES EVASION IN GERMANY'S ANSWER

Suggestion of Opportunity to Fix Details Held a Deliberate Misunderstanding—Brings Peace No Nearer

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Men's Opera Watches

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